



INDIANA *for* COMMISSION  
HIGHER EDUCATION

For Immediate Release  
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**INDIANA HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION APPROVES  
SHORTER TIME-TO-CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS FOCUSED ON  
SPURRING ECONOMIC GROWTH**

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education approved new certificate programs focused on helping Hoosiers increase their education and earning potential in less time. Full-time students can generally complete these certifications in one or two semesters. Graduates of these programs qualify for nationally recognized workforce credentials that have currency in the workplace.

The following approved certificate programs will be offered statewide at Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana campuses beginning fall 2007:

Automotive Electrical/Electronics	Java Programming
Bookkeeping	Machine Tool
Brakes and Suspension	Microsoft Office Specialist
Construction Technician	Network Administration
Database	PC Support and Administration
Engine Performance	Power Train
Fluid Power	Routing and Switching
Fundamental Payroll	Structural Welding
Heating and Air Conditioning	Systems Security
Human Resource Management	Visual Programming
Industrial Electrician Certificate	Web Management

“We think these certification programs will play an important role in the state’s efforts to spur economic growth,” said Chris Murphy, Chair of the Commission for Higher Education and President and CEO of 1st Source Bank. “Attracting new students into higher education who want to upgrade their skills in a shorter period of time is good for the individual, for local communities and for the state.”

Each of these certificate programs aligns with a related associate degree – allowing students to continue upgrading their education level in the future.

With the Commission’s approval, state and federal need-based financial aid can be awarded to students pursuing these certificates. This action aligns with goals for increasing accessibility and affordability for Hoosiers as outlined in the Commission’s Framework – a strategic plan for Indiana’s higher education system adopted in 2003.

Also granted approval at Friday's Commission meeting last week in Lafayette were the following regional campus offered advance degrees:

- Indiana University East at Richmond - Master of Science in Education
- Indiana University East at Richmond - Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology

Expanding advanced degree offerings at regional campuses in line with local economic and workforce needs carries forward the vision set out in the Commission's Framework – a strategic plan for higher education adopted in November 2003.

Additional program approvals granted October 13, 2006:

- Ivy Tech Community College at East Chicago, Valparaiso, South Bend, Lafayette, Columbus and Bloomington -Technical Certificate, Associate of Applied Science, and Associate of Science in Human Services
- Ivy Tech Community College at Bloomington, Lafayette and Evansville -Technical Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration (Bloomington only)
- Purdue University at West Lafayette - Master of Public Health
- Vincennes University at Vincennes, Jasper and Statewide via Distance Education Technology - Associate of Applied Science in Pharmacy Technician

Capital projects approved October 13, 2006:

- Ball State University at Muncie - L.A. Pittenger Student Center Rehabilitation, New North Residence Hall
- Purdue University at West Lafayette - Strategic Infrastructure and Utilities Improvements, Residence Halls Food Service Consolidation Expenditure Increase

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*About the Commission for Higher Education -*

*The Commission for Higher Education is the state's coordinating agency for higher education. Its statutory purposes are to plan and to coordinate Indiana's state-supported system of postsecondary education, taking into account the plans and interests of independent colleges and universities; to define the educational missions of public colleges and universities; to review both operating budget and capital budget appropriation requests from public institutions; to approve or disapprove for public institutions the establishment of any new branches, campuses, extension centers, colleges or schools; to approve or disapprove for public institutions the offering of any additional associate, baccalaureate or graduate degree or certificate program of two semesters or more in duration; to review all programs of public institutions and make recommendations to the governing board of the institution, the Governor, and the General Assembly concerning the funding and the disposition of these programs; and, to review the budget requests of the State Student Assistance Commission. For additional information go to [www.che.state.in.us](http://www.che.state.in.us).*